Enter MONTJOY.

EXE. Here comes the herald of the French, my liege.

lcinos camp. " When the outcry of the *lacldes and boys,* which *ran awav for fear of the Frenchmen,* thus spoiling the camp, came to the king's ears, he, doubting lest his enemies should gather together again and begin a new fielde, and mistrusting further that the *prisoners* would either be an aide to his enemies, or very enemies to their takers indeed, if they were suffered to live, contrary to his accustomed gentleness, commanded by sounde of trumpet, that *every man upon pain of death should incontinentlv slea his prisoner.*'—Here then we have the first transaction relative to the killing of the prisoners, in consequence of the spoiling of the camp, to which Fluellen alludes in the beginning of this scene, when he complains of the French having killed the " boys and the luggage : " and we see, the order for killing the prisoners arose partly from that outrage, and partly from Henry's apprehension that his enemies might renew the battle, and that his forces *' were not sufficient to guard one army, and fight another.'*

What follows will serve to explain the King's threat in the speech now before us, at least will show that it is not out of its place. ** When (proceeds the Chronicler,) this lamentable slaughter [of the prisoners] was ended, the Englishmen disposed themselves in order of battavle, readv to abide a new fielde, and also to invade and newlv set on their enemies.—Some write, that the King *perceivinq his enemies in one parte to assemble together,* as though they meant to give a new battaile for preservation of the prisoners, *sent to them a heraUU commaundinq them either to depart out of his sight, or else to come forward at once, and give battaile; promising herewith, that if they did offer to fight againe, not only those prisoners which his people already had taken, but also so many of them as in this new conflicte which they thus attempted, should fall into his hands, should die the death without re-* *ttemption?* "

The fact was, that notwithstanding the first order concerning the prisoners, they were not all put to death, as appears from a subsequent passage, (which ascertains what our

author's conception was,) and from the most authentick accounts of the battle of Agincourt. " When the King sat at his refection, he was served at his boorde of those *great lords and princes that were taken in the field*" According to Fabian, the Duke of Orleans, who was among the captives, on hearing the proclamation for putting the prisoners to death, was so alarmed, that he immediately sent a message to the newly assembled French troops, who thereupon